(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE-PATIL): (a) and (b) The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA) (Third Party Administrators—Health Services) Regulations, 2001 provide for licensing of Third Party Administrators (TPAs) in the field of health services. Under the Regulations, the TPAs are required to be registered as companies under the Companies Act, 1956 with a minimum paid up capital of Rs. 1 Crore. The TPAs are expected to render services related to health insurance business under an agreed arrangement with an insurance company. The scope of these services will not include soliciting or underwriting of insurance business by the TPAs.

(c) to (e) IRDA has received 24 applications so far. After scrutiny of the applications in principle approval has been accorded in respect of 13 applications.

Dissemination of data on credit information

580. SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India propose to disseminate data on credit information by credit information bureau;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any committee has been set up by the RBI to examine the issue;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the time fixed for submission of report by the Committee; and

(e) whether the data will be available on line?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE-PATIL): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that it is considering disclosure of information through the Credit Information Bureau India Ltd. (CIBIL) on borrowers against whom suits have been filed as they are in the Public domain and those borrowers who have given consent for such disclosure by the CIB.

(c) and (d) Yes Sir, a Working Group has been constituted by RBI to examine the possibility of CIBIL performing the role of collecting and disseminating information of suit-filed accounts and defaulters, including wilful defaulters and other aspects of information collection and dissemination. The Group has submitted its report to RBI on 7th February, 2002.

(e) CIBIL proposes to provide the data on suit-filed accounts on-line when the system of CIBIL is operationalised with the necessary technological capabilities.

Exemption of GFR for Kendriya Bhandar

581. SHRI MUNNAVAR HASAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have exempted the procedure laid down in Chapter 8 of the General Financial Rules (GFR) in the purchase of stationery and other items from the Kendriya Bhandar;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the said exemption has proved detrimental to the financial interest of the State in selling stationery and other items at higher than the market rates;

(d) whether there is any proposal to withdraw the exemption, and if so, by when; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE-PATIL): (a) to (e) With a view to promote cooperative movement, Department of Personnel and Training (DOP and T) in consultation with this Ministry had issued an Order dated 14.7.1981 which made it incumbent on all Central Government Departments, their attached and subordinate offices and other organisations financed and/or controlled by Government to make all local purchases of stationery and other items only from Kendriya Bhandar in relaxation of the procedure of inviting tenders/ quotations prescribed in GFRs. Keeping in view the ongoing policy of liberalisation of the economy and the emphasis on making Govt. organisations competitive and self-striving, the question of reviewing the existing special dispensation given to Kendriya Bhandar, etc. and instread following the provisions of GFRs is under active consideration of this Ministry and DOP & T.